

help people in need, and in this case those who have lost everything. I commend all the students, their families and especially their guidance counselor, Karlene Hughes, and Principal Pam Nystrom, who facilitated this heartwarming effort with the students. I consider it an honor to represent each of these fifth graders and all of those involved in "Penny Wars," in the United States Congress and again I thank them for their great act of kindness and charity.

RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, as Americans, one of our most sacred and fundamental rights is the right to protest that with which we disagree, and I am encouraged to see Americans exercising that right by joining together at the Capitol to voice their opinion on health care reform. The actions of a few individuals, revealed last week in news reports, who shouted profane and bigoted language at members of Congress, has no place in this debate or any other. These actions are deeply regrettable. Across our nation, Americans have engaged in peaceful demonstrations all across the country voicing their opinions in townhalls, rallies, marches and protests. By engaging in robust, civil debate, we honor the highest and best tradition of our democracy.

HONORING UNITED STATES
PARALYMPIAN ADAM PAGE OF
LANCASTER, NEW YORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me in recognizing Adam Page of Lancaster, New York, a proud member of the United States Paralympics sled hockey team, who most recently won a gold medal in the Winter Games at Vancouver.

Currently a senior at St. Mary's High School in Lancaster, Adam was born with spina bifida, a birth defect caused by the incomplete formation of vertebrae. His parents were told that Adam would never walk, probably would be blind and probably retarded. Adam had other ideas.

At the age of eight, Adam was determined to do what so many of his fellow Western New Yorkers do growing up—play ice hockey. He started his formal hockey playing days with the Buffalo Sabres sled hockey club team, and his hard work and hockey skills soon propelled him to the junior national team, and a year after that Adam was named to the senior national team.

Adam scored his first goal at the 2008 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships, and in addition to his participation on this year's gold medal-winning Paralympian team, he has also been a member of the gold medal-winning 2010 Japan Para Ice Sledge team, the 2009 Paralympic Team of the Year, the gold

medal-winning 2009 World Champion team, and the 2008 bronze medal-winning IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Champion.

Adam has overcome so much in his life, and it is a testament to his hard work and dedication and the support of his family and friends who have stood by his side.

I again ask that the House join me in congratulating Adam on winning the gold medal as a member of Team USA's Paralympics sled hockey team, and wish him much success in the future.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN CAMPBELL
AS THE OKALOOSA COUNTY SUP-
PORT PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Susan Campbell as the Okaloosa County, Florida Support Person of the Year for the 2009–2010 school year. I am honored to acknowledge her exemplary achievements and her dedication to the students and teachers of Northwest Florida.

Susan has worked as a school clerk and guidance counselor at Niceville High School for the past eight years. Over her career, she has been one of the most dedicated resources for Niceville's students. She teaches financial aid workshops, schedules college visits, mentors new students, and provides parent/student seminars on a range of college-related topics. She also takes a special interest in Niceville's seniors, preparing them for graduation and life after high school. The high school's seniors regularly earn close to \$10 million in scholarships every year based in large part on Susan's hard work.

For her dedication both inside and outside the classroom, Susan has been recognized on numerous occasions. She is a supporter of the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society, as well as a volunteer for the Covenant Hospice. She and her husband Wayne Campbell are members of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society for their contributions to the Okaloosa County community through United Way. Susan's other volunteer service includes the Northwest Florida State College Meagan Lynne Campbell Nursing Scholarship and the Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Susan Campbell as the Okaloosa County Support Person of the Year. Her passion for her students is commendable and her dedication to her profession and her community is highly deserving of this award. My wife Vicki and I wish Susan, her husband Wayne, and her family all the best for the future.

HONORING DAVID KLEPAREK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to

the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. David Kleparek. Mr. Kleparek served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Chautauqua County Legislature, serving district 24.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Kleparek served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Kleparek is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to him today.

RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my opposition to this government takeover of health care. I believe improvements could be made to the existing health care system, but this government takeover of one-sixth of the economy is not the right answer. It will not lower the cost of health care, but will add layers of bureaucracy and confusion to the existing system.

I am not alone in opposing this flawed, irresponsible bill. In the past week, more than a thousand constituents from the 19th District of Texas have emailed and called me to express their opposition, and thousands more have contacted me in opposition since this debate began last year.

My constituents don't understand why the House leadership insists on going down the road of trying to enact a government takeover of health care that our nation can't afford and that will not improve their health care. They don't understand why leaders in Congress refuse to listen to the American people. They do not support this expansion of government; they do not support their tax dollars funding coverage for abortion; and they do not want us to approve this legislation.

We must ask ourselves whether this legislation advances the principle of empowerment or expands entitlement. I strongly believe government should empower individuals to be successful in the economy, rather than enact policies that make them more dependent on the federal government. Our Founders believed in empowerment, but this legislation shows how far this Congress has strayed from this principle.

This legislation clearly expands entitlement and blatantly fails to empower Americans. The policies being proposed today will create more uncertainty for employers trying to create new jobs, increase costs for families and create new unfunded liabilities for the federal government. We cannot continue down this path of entitlement; it simply does not work.

This bill increases government spending by \$1.2 trillion and increases taxes by \$569 billion. It also includes unfunded mandates that states cannot afford in the form of Medicaid expansions.